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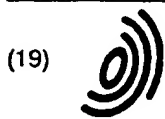
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PCT/GB96/01634

(87) International publication number:  
WO 97/02980 (30.01.1997 Gazette 1997/06)

(54) **FLEXIBLE VESSELS FOR TRANSPORTING FLUENT CARGOES**

DEHNBARE BEHÄLTER ZUM TRANSPORT VON FLÜSSIGEN LADUNGEN

CONTENEURS SOUPLES SERVANT A TRANSPORTER DES CHARGEMENTS DE MATIERES  
COULANTES

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AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC  
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(56) References cited:  
FR-A- 2 210 180      FR-A- 2 377 931  
GB-A- 2 181 996      US-A- 2 682 751  
US-A- 3 289 721      US-A- 3 983 830

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EP 0 832 032 B1

## CLAIMS:

1. Apparatus for transporting fluent cargo through  
5 liquid comprising one or more units arranged substantially in  
linear alignment, wherein at least one said unit comprises two  
or more flexible containers close coupled side by side.
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in use,  
10 adjacent facing sides of respective containers of said at  
least one unit are substantially parallel along at least part  
of their length.
3. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein no two  
15 consecutive linearly aligned units comprise a single flexible  
container.
4. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein  
each container has angled, front and rear end sections.  
20
5. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein  
each container is parallel sided.
6. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein  
25 the container is diamond-shaped or hexagonal.
7. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein  
the containers are connected at their broadest extent.
- 30 8. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein  
the apparatus comprises alternating sequential units of one  
and two containers.
9. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein  
35 the apparatus comprises three units of one container and two  
units of two containers.

- 9 -

10. Apparatus substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

1/1  
FIG. 1

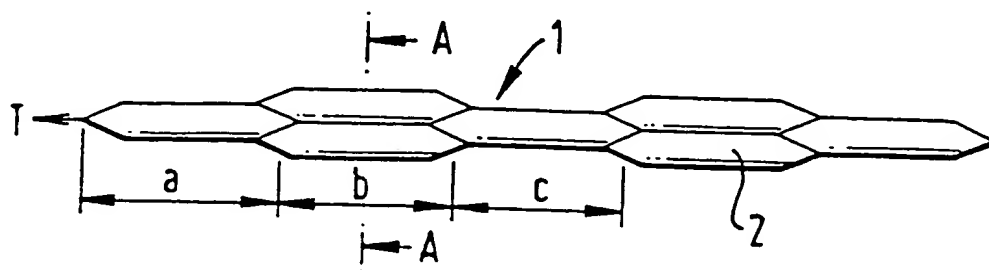


FIG. 2

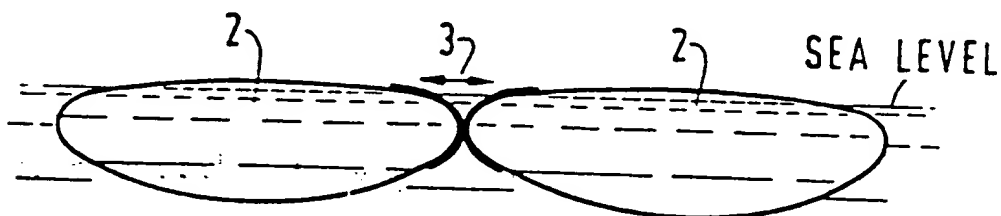


FIG. 3

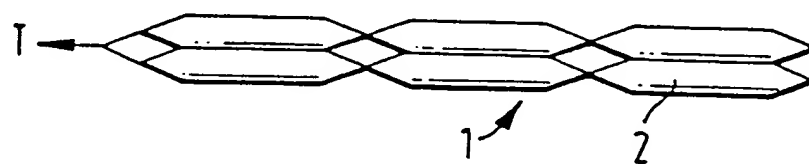


FIG. 4

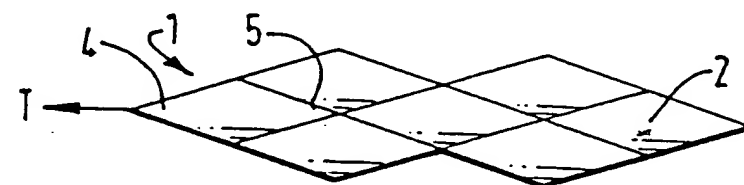


FIG. 5

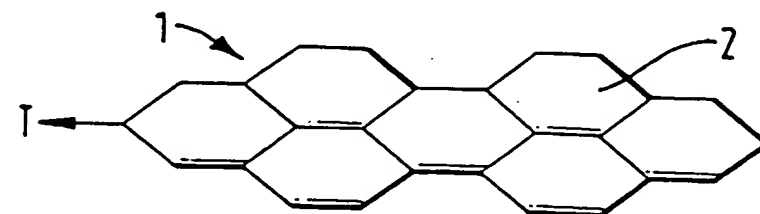
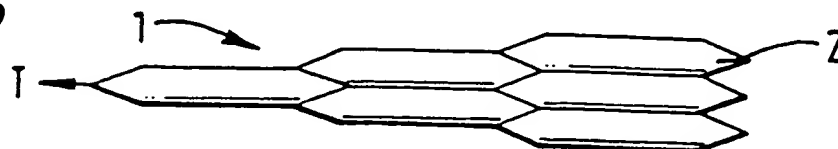


FIG. 6



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In tional Application No  
PCT/GB 96/01634

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 6 B63B35/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 B63B B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	FR,A,2 210 180 (GRIHANGNE) 5 July 1974 see page 3, line 24 - page 4, line 2; figures 1,2	1,2,10 3-7
X	FR,A,2 377 931 (LEDUN) 18 August 1978 see the whole document	1,2
Y	US,A,3 983 830 (MORGAN) 5 October 1976 see figures 1-6	3,7
Y	US,A,3 289 721 (BENSON) 6 December 1966 see figures 1,2	4,5
Y	GB,A,2 181 996 (YANG) 7 May 1987 see figures 1-2,1-3	6
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 October 1996

Date of mailing of the international search report

29.10.96

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 96/01634

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US,A,2 682 751 (BOCK) 6 July 1954</p> <p>see figures 11,12</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1-3,5, 7-9</p>

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No  
PCT/GB 96/01634

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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FR-A-2377931	18-08-78	NONE	
US-A-3983830	05-10-76	NONE	
US-A-3289721	06-12-66	NONE	
GB-A-2181996	07-05-87	US-A- 4688505	25-08-87
US-A-2682751	06-07-54	NONE	